

# SYRACUSE

## POLICE DEPARTMENT



## 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

# "SETTING THE P.A.C.E."



PRIDE • ACCOUNTABILITY • COOPERATION • EXCELLENCE



**Garret Atkin**  
Police Chief



Mayor Terry Palmer  
Syracuse City Council  
City Manager Brody Bovero

I am very fortunate to serve as Police Chief of this fine department. I have the honor of working with an amazing group of dedicated men and women, and we are lucky to be a part of a city where residents and the business community are such wonderful supporters of law enforcement. Syracuse Police Department has a long history of working with the community to address public safety concerns; together, we continue to make Syracuse one of the safest cities in Utah, as well as a special place to live, work, and visit.

This report provides information on a variety of topics including crime and traffic data, staffing, training, and technology. Additionally, I feel it is important for me to demonstrate that Syracuse Police Department takes its duty to maintain the nobility of the law enforcement profession and to listen to the concerns of those we serve seriously; therefore, I have included information related to use of force and professional standards investigations.

Our primary goal in 2016 was to improve upon our past efforts of community outreach and community-oriented policing. It is important for members of a professional police department to remember that they are a part of the community they serve, not apart from it. In 2016, Syracuse Police Department participated in successful charity events, started efforts to bring Neighborhood Watch and radKIDS to our community, and sponsored our second annual Night Out Against Crime event. Our Night Out Against Crime event was so successful that we received special recognition as one of the top 50 events in the country for cities with population between 15,000-50,000.

This report also provides insight into the type of men and women who choose to serve this community. As departments across the country have struggled to keep veteran officers, we have remained largely intact. When it was necessary to fill vacancies, we were fortunate to add members who have fit in very well with our culture and community. Many of our members were recognized with special awards and honors that demonstrate our commitment to providing our community with the best police services possible.

Certainly, there are areas where we can improve in the coming year and beyond, but it is my belief that in 2016 Syracuse Police Department displayed its guiding principles of Pride, Accountability, Cooperation, and Excellence. It is my privilege to present to you our 2016 Annual Report.

Sincerely,

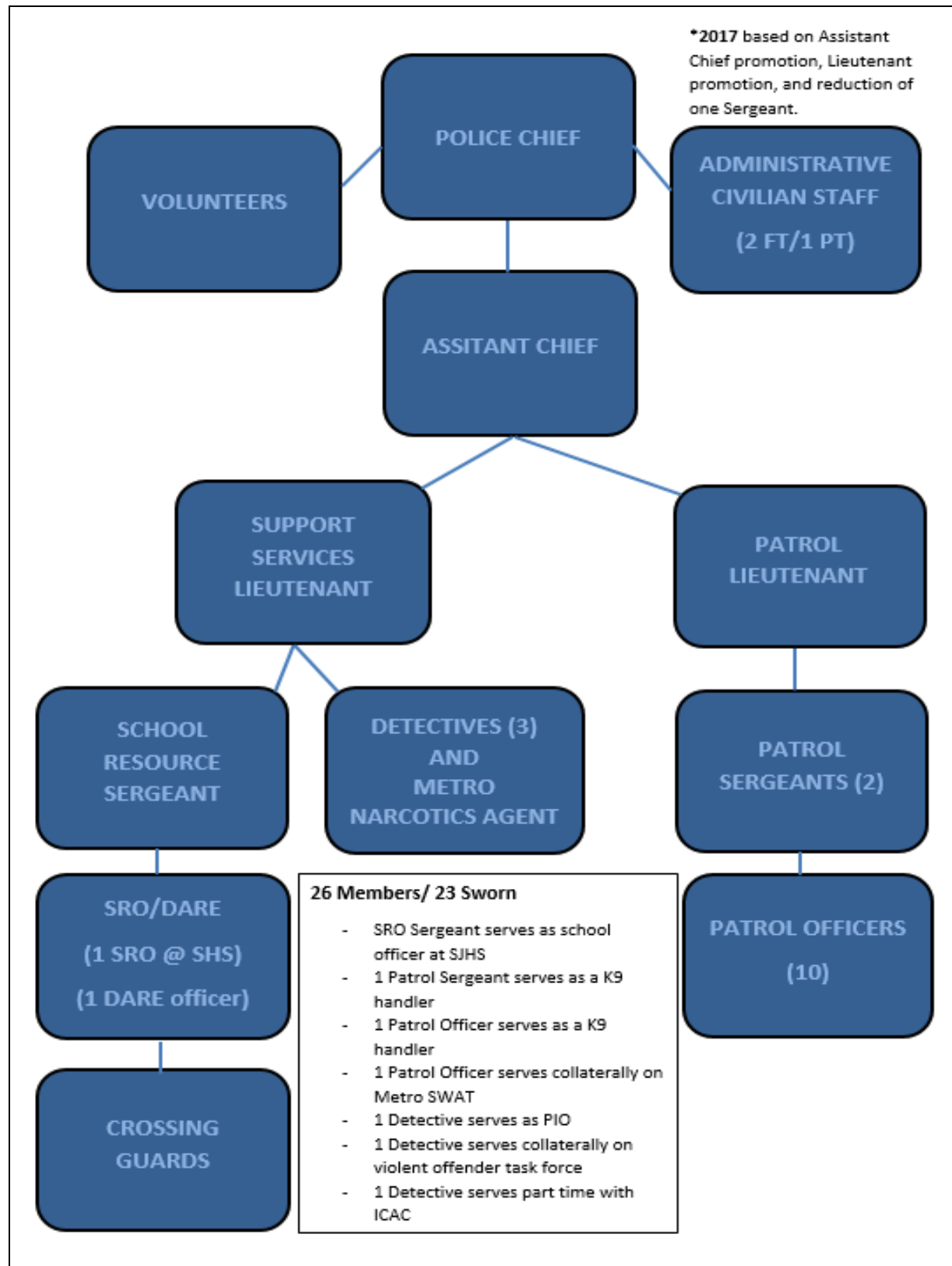
Garret Atkin  
Police Chief

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# Department Organization



Activity Summary			
	2014	2015	2016
<b>Total Police Activity (Totals)</b>	12,922	16,615	14,709
Cases Assigned	8,007	10,753	9,595
<b>Crimes Against Person (Totals)</b>	107	111	111
Sex Offenses - Forcible	16	30	18
Sex Offenses - Non-Forcible	1	3	2
Assault Offenses	85	76	88
Kidnapping/Abduction *	4	2	3
Homicides	2	0	0
<b>Crimes Against Property (Totals)</b>	506	695	699
Robbery	1	0	1
Counterfeiting/Forgery	5	1	25
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	26	46	43
Stolen Property Offenses	3	5	5
Motor Vehicle Theft	5	14	12
Larceny/Theft Offenses	240	283	259
Arson	3	1	0
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	135	224	197
Fraud Offenses	88	119	156
Embezzlement	0	2	1
<b>Crimes Against Society (Totals)</b>	81	85	120
Drug/Narcotic Offenses	72	69	107
Pornography/Obscene Material	7	11	6
Weapon Law Violations	2	5	7
<b>Arrests (Totals)</b>	ID**	380	404
Adult	ID**	233	247
Juvenile	ID**	147	157
<b>Traffic Accidents (Totals)</b>	331	433	397
Traffic Accidents- Fatalities	1	1	0
Traffic Accidents - With Injury	21	34	19
<b>Traffic Stops</b>	4,032	4,261	3,579
<b>Traffic Citations</b>	1,644	1,358	1,224
<b>DUI Arrests</b>	15	23	11
<b>K9 Deployments (Totals)</b>	101	81	84
K9 Deployments for other jurisdictions	45	40	29
<b>Narcotics Finds (Totals)</b>	32	22	30
Narcotics Finds for other jurisdictions	18	15	13
<b>Cases with Use of Force</b>	17***	33	25
Officers involved in Use of Force	24***	42	37
*Kidnapping/Abduction cases are custodial interferences between guardians.			
** ID = Data known to be incomplete or inaccurate			
*** Use of Force for 2014 only shows from July 2014 to December 2014			



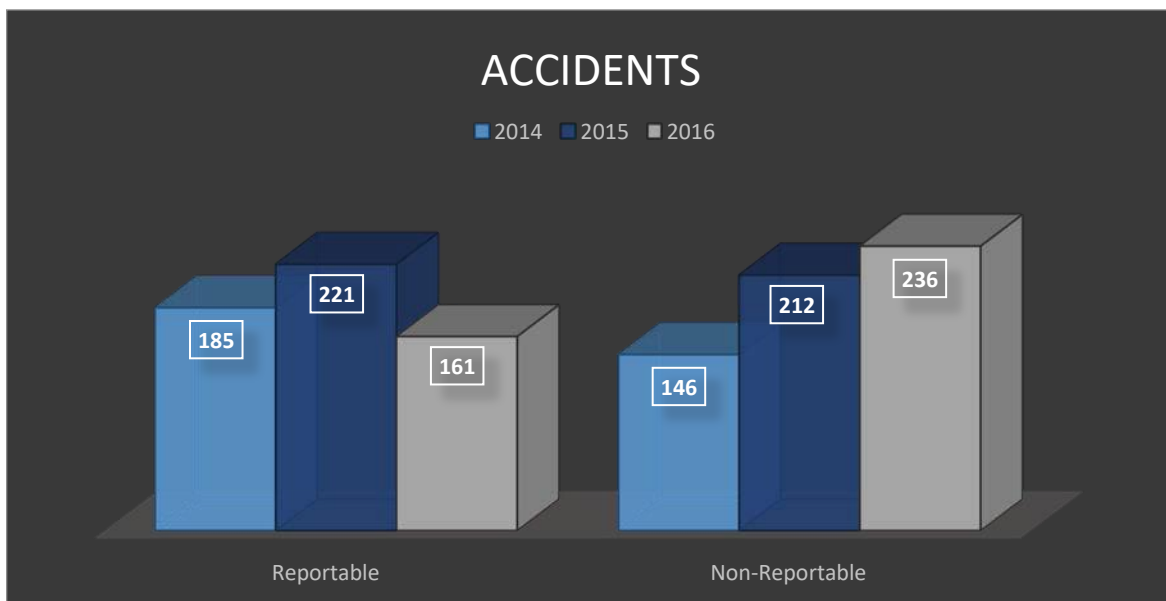
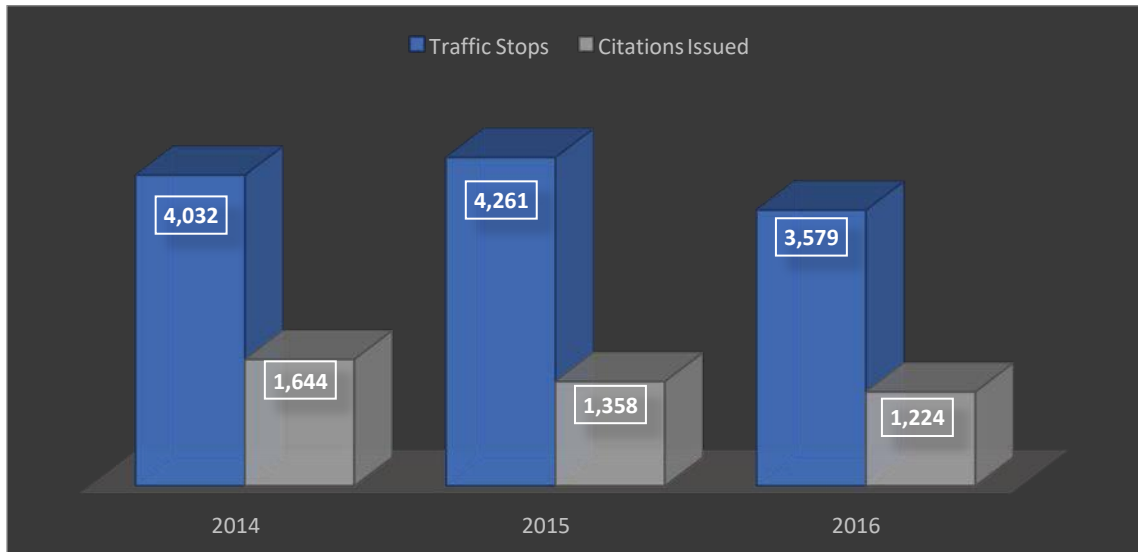
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## Activity and Crime Clock



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## Traffic



Traffic accidents are categorized into two groups, reportable or non-reportable. Any accident with total property damage over \$1,500.00, injury, or death is considered a reportable accident.



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## Use of Force

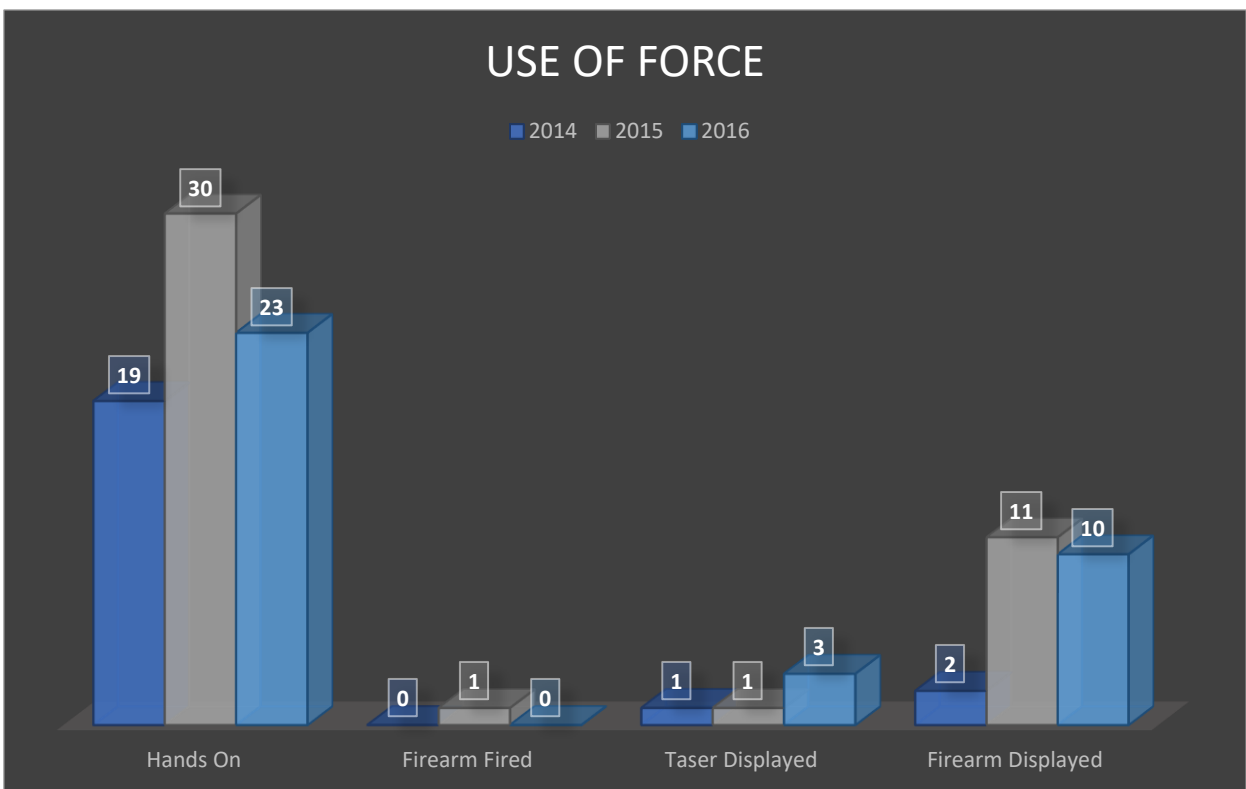
Syracuse Police Department defines force as the application of physical techniques or tactics, chemical agents, or weapons to another person. It is not a use of force when a person allows him/herself to be searched, escorted, handcuffed, or restrained.

An officer may use reasonable force to effect arrest, to prevent escape or to overcome resistance. An officer who makes or attempts to make an arrest need not retreat or desist from his/her efforts due to resistance or threatened resistance of the person being arrested; nor shall such officer be deemed the aggressor or lose his/her right to self-defense by the use of reasonable force to effect the arrest or to prevent escape or to overcome resistance. Officers shall use only that amount of force that reasonably appears necessary given the facts and circumstances perceived by the officer at the time of the event to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement purpose.

The Department recognizes and respects the value of all human life and dignity without prejudice to anyone.

In 2016, officers from Syracuse Police Department used force in .36% of all police cases. The graph below depicts the number of officers who used force and the type of force that was used. It is possible that the same officer used more than one type of force during an incident.

\* Note that use of force information for 2014 was only tracked from July – December.



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## Professional Standards Investigations

2014		
	Citizen	Department
Sustained	0	7
Not Sustained	0	0
Exonerated	0	0
Unfounded	1	3
Total	1	10

2015		
	Citizen	Department
Sustained	0	7
Not Sustained	0	1
Exonerated	0	1
Unfounded	2	1
Total	2	10

2016		
	Citizen	Department
Sustained	2	6
Not Sustained	0	2
Exonerated	0	0
Unfounded	10	1
Total	12	9

# Metro Narcotics Strike Force

The strike force is composed of investigators from law enforcement agencies throughout Davis County. The mission of the strike force is to investigate and prosecute those involved in the illegal manufacture, importation, use and sale of controlled substances under state, federal and local laws. Syracuse Police Department has one agent assigned to the task force.

Activity			
	2014	2015	2016
New Cases Generated	326	289	280
Search Warrants	36	27	46
Felony Arrests	159	106	121
Contraband Seizures			
	2014	2015	2016
Methamphetamine (lbs.)	93.83	48.98	73.78
Cocaine (lbs.)	0.33	1.07	6.86
Marijuana (lbs.)	60.03	14.6	280.9
Marijuana Extract (ml)	n/a *	1495.8	161.7
Marijuana Edibles (dose units)	n/a *	45	1235
Marijuana Plants	58	0	13
Prescription Drugs (dose units)	1612	287.75	13,277.5
Prescription Drugs (ml)	n/a *	n/a *	300
Club Drugs (lbs.)	0.13	0.01	0.12
Club Drugs (dose units)	n/a *	3	313
Club drugs (ml)	n/a *	709.8	0
Heroin (lbs.)	1.28	23.32	18.24
Hashish (lbs.)	0.03	0	10.46
Hallucinogens (lbs.)	5.9	2	0.48
Hallucinogens (dose units)	290	350	414
Weapons	15	22	71
Asset Seizures			
	2014	2015	2016
Cash	\$48,800	\$117,054	\$44,977
Vehicles	\$76,183	\$71,725	\$69,590
Property	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$124,983	\$188,779	\$114,567
* This information not previously tracked.			

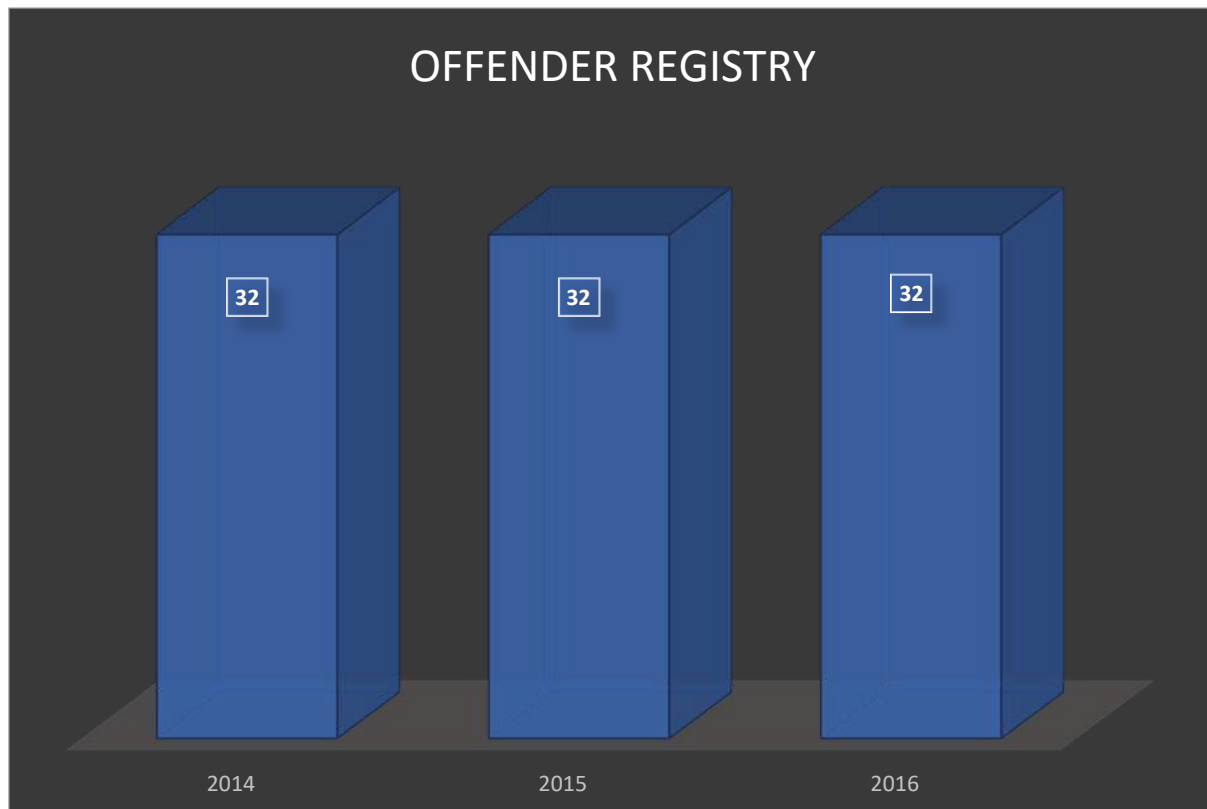
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## Sex Offenders

In 2016, there were 32 known Registered Sex Offenders (RSOs) living in Syracuse. This number has remained steady for the past three years.

Every six months, a RSO must come to the Police Department in person and provide updated details regarding their information; this includes address changes, telephone numbers, and vehicle information. If a RSO has moved into the area, they have three days to comply with updating their registration. Information on RSOs living in Syracuse can be obtain through the Utah Department of Corrections at

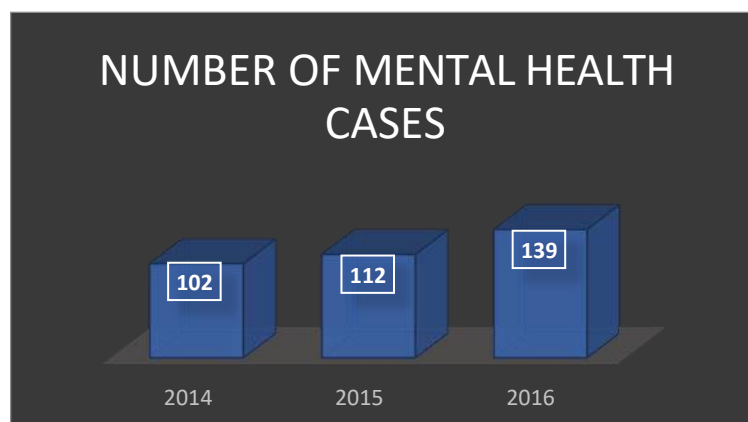
[http://www.communitynotification.com/cap\\_office\\_disclaimer.php?office=54438](http://www.communitynotification.com/cap_office_disclaimer.php?office=54438)



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## Mental Health Involvements

These cases account for our involvement with individuals who are experiencing mental health issues and need additional assistance from police and/or social services. This includes mental health commitments and suicides (completed/attempted/threats).



CIT Utah is a program of the State of Utah. It is primarily funded through the Utah Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, as well as private donations. The program is administered by a contract awarded to CIT Utah, Inc., a nonprofit corporation established specifically for this purpose.

The CIT Utah program develops and sustains partnerships between criminal justice services, behavioral healthcare services, and community members. These partnerships provide three basic services: the training of law enforcement officers in proper methods of crisis response and resolution; developing effective crisis response systems; and advocating for behavioral health services and programming.

One component of an effective crisis response system includes a community's access to a cadre of specially trained law enforcement officers certified and recognized by the State of Utah as CIT Officers. The CIT Utah program is not only capable of training every officer in de-escalation skills to address highly emotional situations regardless of its cause, but in addition, is the only certifying program recognized by a Concurrent Resolution of the Utah Legislature and the Governor that provides CIT Certification to law enforcement officers in the State of Utah.

Syracuse Police Department is committed to Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) and understands the importance of this training for officers and the community. Currently, 66% of our sworn members have completed the CIT Utah program, including three who attended the training in 2016. Syracuse Police Department has a goal of having all sworn members complete this training and have valid certification.

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# Technology

In 2016, we acquired new recording equipment for our interview rooms. This equipment eliminated the use of proprietary software, which now allows easier viewing and sharing of recordings. Per Utah Rules of Evidence 616, police agencies are mandated to record in-custody interrogations of suspects. The new recording equipment has helped the Department comply with this rule. Additionally, neighboring police agencies searching for new equipment have inquired about, and observed, our new system. This improvement was funded entirely through the Justice Assistance grant.

Additionally, we acquired eight Microsoft Surface Pro devices for sworn administration positions, investigators, and the school resource officer at Syracuse High School. The devices allow for improved capabilities and productivity when not in the office. Grant funds were used to purchase 75% of these devices.

Furthermore, ICAC Digital Forensic Equipment was purchased. The equipment allows our ICAC investigator to connect to a variety of digital storage devices and examine data without altering it in any way. This preserves the integrity of the evidence and can be done in the office or while the investigator is on-scene. Grant funds were used to purchase this equipment.

We purchased several training items to improve officers' firearms skills. These items included steel targets and a fully outfitted patrol rifle that is used in conjunction with our computer firearms training system. Improvements to our firearms training program over recent years has had a dramatic impact on our proficiency in this area. In 2016, 20 out of 21 officers qualified with a score of 90% or higher. The qualification consists of a 50-round course that involves moving and different shooting platforms at distances ranging from 3 yards to 25 yards.

Finally, Chief Atkin made arrangements with Crime Reports to share information on police activities with the public. This system is free to the City and free to all users. This free service is intended to help residents have a better understanding of what police related activities are occurring in our community. To access the system, go to [www.crimereports.com](http://www.crimereports.com). For safety reasons, the police activities are not populated to the map in real-time. Additionally, not all types of police activities are populated to the map. For example, cases of a sexual nature, domestic violence, and activities that were primarily generated for medical assistance will not show up on the map.



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# Training

Training is an important component of a professional and well-rounded police department. On average, officers with Syracuse Police Department completed 80 hours of training in 2016 (this does not include SWAT, K9, or field training for new officers). The information below includes highlights from our training efforts.

Administrative Professionals Mazie Watters and Mariana Molina obtained some important certifications in 2016. Mazie became a Utah Notary Public; Mariana became a Certified Records Officer through the Utah Division of Archives and Records Service.

Officer Stan Penrod and Sergeant Lance Call attended radKIDS training. radKIDS is a program that teaches, trains, and empowers children with real skills so they can recognize, avoid, resist, and if necessary escape violence and harm in their lives. Officer Penrod and Sergeant Call will offer classes to the community in the summer of 2017.

Chief Atkin, Assistant Chief Rogers, and Lieutenant Jensen attended the International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference in San Diego, California. It was the first time for each of them.

Officer Nathan Brown completed School Resource Officer training before becoming the new SRO at Syracuse High School.

Several officers attended Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement Training, which focuses on advanced skills for DUI detection and enforcement, and Drug Identification and Symptomology.

Assistant Chief Rogers was selected from numerous applications to attend the inaugural Role of the Police Chief course developed by the Utah Chiefs of Police Association.

Syracuse Police Department and Kaysville Police Department did a two-night joint emergency vehicle operations/high-risk traffic stop training on Antelope Island.

Thirteen officers and spouses attended Emotional Survival for Law Enforcement: A Guide for Officers and their Families. The goal of this course is to aid officers and their families in maintaining and/or improving their quality of life both personally and professionally.

Seven officers attended Below 100 training; two are certified to teach the course in-house to the rest of the Department. This course focuses on reducing line of duty deaths. The five tenants are 1) Wear your vest; 2) Wear your seatbelt; 3) Watch your speed; 4) WIN- What's Important Now; 5) Remember: Complacency Kills!



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## ICAC

The ICAC program has provided our department with great resources and equipment to thoroughly investigate sexual related offenses. Here are a few examples:

- 1) Detective Weir identified a suspect and investigated a sextortion case originating in Syracuse, Utah. During the investigation, Detective Weir learned the juvenile victim was also a suspect in a contact offense involving his younger brother. Ultimately, both suspects were charged with their respective crimes.
- 2) After conducting a thorough investigation, Detective Weir identified a suspect in California soliciting a Syracuse High School student for nude images. Detective Weir obtained assistance from ICAC investigators in California and had a search warrant served at the suspect's address. Ultimately, the suspect was interviewed and several digital images were seized.
- 3) Detective Weir handled a couple of cases involving minors enticing minors. Detective Weir identified the parties involved in other states and arranged for them to be contacted concerning the issues.

Our department presented to over 600 people educating them about online safety. As part of these presentations, our department incorporated online safety as a topic of discussion at our annual National Night Out Against Crime event. Additionally, Detective Weir assisted in nearly 80% of ICAC technical support operations. Furthermore, Detective Weir has been proactive in reaching out to the other areas our agency covers and informing them of his responsibilities in assisting them pertaining to ICAC cases.

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# Davis County Citizens Academy

Syracuse Police Department is an active partner in the Davis County Citizens Academy. On behalf of the Department, and in partnership with the Davis County Children's Justice Center, Detective Weir discusses modern day sex crime investigations. This discussion includes a focus on cases involving the internet and the sexual exploitation of children. As a participating agency with the Utah Attorney General's Office Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force we can discuss current case trends, as well as provide measures to counteract these terrible crimes.



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## School Resource Officers

We are privileged to provide school resource officers to Syracuse Jr. High School and Syracuse High School. Sergeant Lance Call has been with Syracuse Jr. High for nine years and teaches D.A.R.E to the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Officer Nathan Brown started his first year at Syracuse High School in the fall of 2016. Officer Stan Penrod is honored to serve as the D.A.R.E officer for all the of the elementary schools in Syracuse. Officer Penrod has served as the D.A.R.E officer for nine years. He taught 860 kids in 2016 about life skills and to be drug free.



Our department partnered with Syracuse High School administration to perform a safety drill at the school. Students were placed into a lockdown situation as they have been trained to do in the event of an emergency. Officers then conducted a search, clearing the school to verify the safety of students and faculty as if it were a real situation.



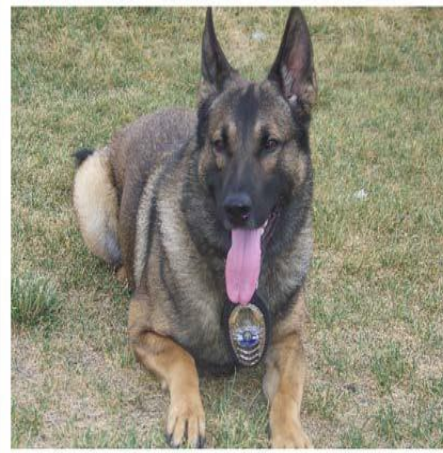


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## Police Service Dog

We have two Police Service Dogs, PSD Kade and PSD Atlas. They are trained to detect narcotics and protect their handler.

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PSD Kade is handled by Sergeant David Skinner. Kade has been in our department for five years. PSD Kade loves to chew on firewood and enjoys eating watermelon out of the garden.

PSD Atlas is handled by Officer Colin Handy. Atlas has been in our department for two years. PSD Atlas is on a never-ending mission to dig to China from the backyard.

Our K9 teams are active in our community. They frequently participate in demos for area schools and police events. They also regularly conduct patrol efforts aimed at detecting illegal drugs in vehicles and on school properties.

In 2016, the K9 teams conducted approximately 90 searches and found illegal drugs and/or drug paraphernalia on approximately 1 out of every 3 searches. One of the most significant cases was an assist to a neighboring agency. PSD Kade was deployed to conducted a free air sniff of several storage sheds. His indication to the presence of narcotic odors led investigators to the discovery of marijuana and a fully operational hash oil lab.



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# Promotions/Transfers/Changes

## **Transfers:**

Officer Casey Johnson was transferred to detectives after serving four years as the SRO at Syracuse High School.

Officer Nathan Brown was transferred from patrol to become the new SRO at Syracuse High School.

## **Changes:**

### **New Hires:**

In 2016, we welcomed three new officers: Officer Wes Hutchings, Officer Garrett Whatcott, and Officer Mark Reid. We also welcomed Lauren Wilko as a part-time Administrative Assistant.

### **Departures:**

Officer Jennifer Walker and Officer Carson Liljenquist left our department to pursue other employment; they had a combined four years with the Department.

### **Retirement:**

Administrative Professional Patricia Pitt retired after 18 years of service.





# Officer Appreciation Banquet



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# Awards

\* **Employee of the Year Award:**

- Detective Casey Johnson

\* **Chief's Award:**

- SRO Nathan Brown

\* **Criminal Investigation Commendation:**

- SYPD Metro Agent
- Detective Bryce Weir

\* **Advanced Degree Recognition:**

- Detective Erin Behm – Bachelor's Degree
- Administrative Professional Patricia Pitt – Bachelor's Degree
- Administrative Professional Mariana Molina – Bachelor's Degree



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## Other Recognition

\* **Mayor's Award of Excellence:**

- Administrative Professional Mazie Watters

\* **City Employee of the Month:**

- Detective Bryce Weir – March
- SYPD Metro Agent – August
- Detective Bryce Weir – November
- Detective Erin Behm - November
- Administrative Professional Mazie Watters –November
- Administrative Assistant Lauren Wilko –November
- Officer Garrett Whatcott -December

\* **Citation of Honor from the Utah Narcotics Officers Association:**

- SYPD Metro Agent

\* **KSL's "Beyond the Badge" recognition:**

- Officer Stan Penrod



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# Community Involvement

## **Volunteers:**

We have six members of the Syracuse Lions Club who volunteer to operate our fingerprint services. They performed over 300 fingerprints for the community. In 2016, they volunteered a total of 203.5 hours.



We also have one community member who has volunteered to be our Neighborhood Watch Program Coordinator and help us with our efforts to bring this program to Syracuse.





### **Guns & Hoses:**

This is a semi-annual charity basketball game between Syracuse Police Department and Syracuse Fire Department. Proceeds from the game benefited the Mathis family, who were all severely burned when their camper exploded while on a camping trip. It was a fantastic event that raised over \$72,000.00 for the family. By the way, Syracuse Police Department won the game...again.



### **National Night Out:**

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

Thanks to the incredible support of the program, Syracuse City was recognized as one of the 50 best events in the country for cities with 15,000 – 50,000 residents.



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### **Beard Fund:**

Officers from Syracuse Police Department donated almost \$900.00 to the Davis Education Foundation. In return for their donations, officers were allowed to wear beards while in uniform. The money they raised helped needy children in Davis County have warm coats for the winter.



### **Drug Take Back/ Drug Disposal:**

Syracuse Police Department provides a drop box for disposal of old/unused prescription medication which is free of charge; this helped the community properly dispose of 650 pounds of unused prescription medication. In addition to the drop box in the lobby of the police department, we also did two off-site collection events in the community that resulted in the disposal of an additional 141 pounds.

### **Miss Syracuse Pageant:**

Chief Atkin, Lieutenant Jensen, and Sergeant Carter were honored to serve as stage escorts for all the beautiful and talented Miss Syracuse pageant contestants.





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### **Department Tours & Presentations:**

Our department did more than 250 presentations in various locations throughout the city. Some of the topics covered are bicycle safety, stranger danger, and healthy choices. During our department tours, children get the opportunity to tour our building, look at our vehicles, and get their fingerprints taken by an officer.



## Letters of Appreciation

We want to thank  
you as a family and  
a community for  
your hard work and  
sacrifices to keep  
us all safe. You  
are Truly Heroes  
for all you do.

Thank you, Thank  
you.!! Our love  
and prayers are  
with you.  
The Nelsons

Dear Syracuse City Police officers, 7/11/16

I want each of you to know how much  
your service to our community is appreciated.

Thank you very much!!

We live in a very troubled world and  
with the recent shootings in Dallas I'm  
sure you must have a little fear for  
your safety.

I respect and support your efforts  
to keep our community safe from  
the bad guys. and ~~we~~ I've got you  
back.

If there is something I can do to  
help you or your families I will  
gladly do it.

My family and I are praying for  
you.

Warmly,  
Michael Wolsey  
Syracuse Citizen

Thanks for the games  
at the park, my favorite  
was the Bikes. I hope  
the police will be safe

Tad Seven years old

Thank you very much for putting together  
the fight crime night. My son was thrilled  
to go to anything with police or firemen.

I thought it was well put together &  
your officers were very pleasant &  
friendly. This was comforting to see  
as we have just recently moved to  
Syracuse. Thanks again!

M. Dupdale

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## Looking To The Future

Syracuse is a desirable, but changing community. Building permits are on the rise and over 40% of our population is under 18 years old. This demonstrates that Syracuse is a community where people want to settle down and raise their families. The increase in residents, combined with current and future infrastructure projects, will place additional burdens on the Department.

Here are a few key issues facing the Department as we look to the future:

- Retaining our current staff.
- Recruiting and hiring quality people as we try to keep up with growth and the increased workload that will come from that growth.
- Continuing to build upon and improve our relationship with our community through outreach efforts.
- Continuing to look for ways to acquire advanced training for our staff that will help them better respond to job related issues and requirements.
- Evaluating changes in equipment and technology that can help us do our jobs safer and more efficiently.
- Replacement of radios to stay compatible with the changing emergency communications system in Utah.
- Continued improvement and evaluation of our in-car and body camera systems.

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## Contact Information



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